

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. The village of Sajóbábony is 8 km. north of Miskolc. The construction area of the new explosives factory lies north-northwest of Sajóbábony in the hilly terrain near the Nyírgd Creek (see sketch), which flows into the Sajó River. The area is almost completely without trees and is approximately 10 square kilometers large. The factory will not be built as a compact unit, but will consist of many individual structures, most of which will be built underground.
2. The construction is being performed by the following enterprises:
 - a. Enterprise for superstructures State Trust No. 27 in Budapest.
 - b. Enterprise for the construction of smokestacks and heating installations in Budapest.
 - c. Enterprise for the construction of water installations.
 - d. Enterprise for the construction of subterranean structures in Budapest.

Each enterprise has its own construction office and staff at the site. All enterprises are subordinate to the over-all construction administration of the factory, under the direction of the future Director General of the factory Bászti, (fmu), who was formerly active in a small chemical enterprise in Budafok. One of his most able co-workers is Chief Engineer Romhányi (fmu).
3. The name of the factory is "Szerves Vegyületeket Előállító Vállalat" (Enterprise for the Production of Organic Compounds). Mostly explosives are to be produced here upon completion of the factory. In addition an installation is provided for the extraction of synthetic gasoline from the brown coal mines at Sajószentpéter and Kazincbarcika. Furthermore acids and a series of other strategically important products are to be produced here.

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4. Construction was started in 1949. Completion is scheduled for 1953 but will probably not be achieved because the necessary machinery is arriving only spasmodically. By the summer of 1952 only about 30 acid containers had arrived from the Györ Railroad Car Factory and only a few machines from East Germany.

5. The individual installations will be built in the depressions and valleys of the hilly terrain and will as a result be excellently camouflaged. The various valleys, as well as the individual enterprises will be designated by capital letters. Plant "A" is located in valley "A" and produces acids and gases, and contains a department for the production of acid-resistant material for metal products. Another plant in valley "A" is designated the "H" Plant. Its purpose could not be ascertained. [redacted] the foundations were being poured for approximately 70 large-size containers. One of the plants is called "Fourth of April". The assembly of approximately 80 aluminum containers, 3.5 meters high, could be observed there. The purpose of this plant is also not known. 25X1

6. The heating installation is almost complete and is one of the few structures above the surface. It is a one story structure, approximately 60 meters long, 20 meters wide and 15 meters high and has a flat concrete roof. Ten boilers are located in the basement, five of which have horizontally movable grates produced by the Ganz Danubius Co. in 1909 (12-atmosphere gauge). The remaining five boilers are of [redacted] origin and have slanted grates. The slag is mechanically crushed in the same installation and then removed. The insulated piping which conducts the steam to the various plants is supposedly of very poor quality. 25X1

7. The transformer installation of the plant is situated near the heating installation in a villa-like building bearing the code designation "L-2."

8. Plants in the "E", "F" and "D" Valleys are likewise designated with these letters. The "D" Plant is the largest plant in the area and consists of about 30 underground installations. Their presence is only indicated by air shafts. The world actual production of the explosives is said to take place here. of the explosives is said to take place here.

9. Approximately 7,500 free laborers, 1,400 military prisoners, and 2,000 civilian prisoners were working at this construction project.

a. The free laborers are living without their families in barracks at the construction sites. They have to sign up to work for 6 months at one specific construction site; however, even when this period is up they are not at liberty to choose their place of work. They are not permitted to leave the area. Their monthly earnings range from 600 to 1,000 forints, of which 120 to 150 forints are deducted for room and board.

b. The slave laborers, civilians as well as military, are housed in a camp at the "Fourth of April" Plant. The camp is surrounded by 3-meter high barbed wire with corner towers and searchlights. The laborers' monthly earnings amount to 400 - 500 forints; however, the large deductions for subsistence and nonfulfillment of the extremely high quotas, result in that the prisoners owe the State large sums of money.

10. The area is surrounded by a 2-meter high barbed-wire fence and is guarded by a unit of the AVH (State Security Authority). Every 100 to 200 meters a searchlight is located along the fence. The site can be entered only with the specific permission of the AVH.

1. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] the factory was already manufacturing explosives prior to 17 January 1952, while the construction of individual factories was obviously still in progress. 25X1 25X1

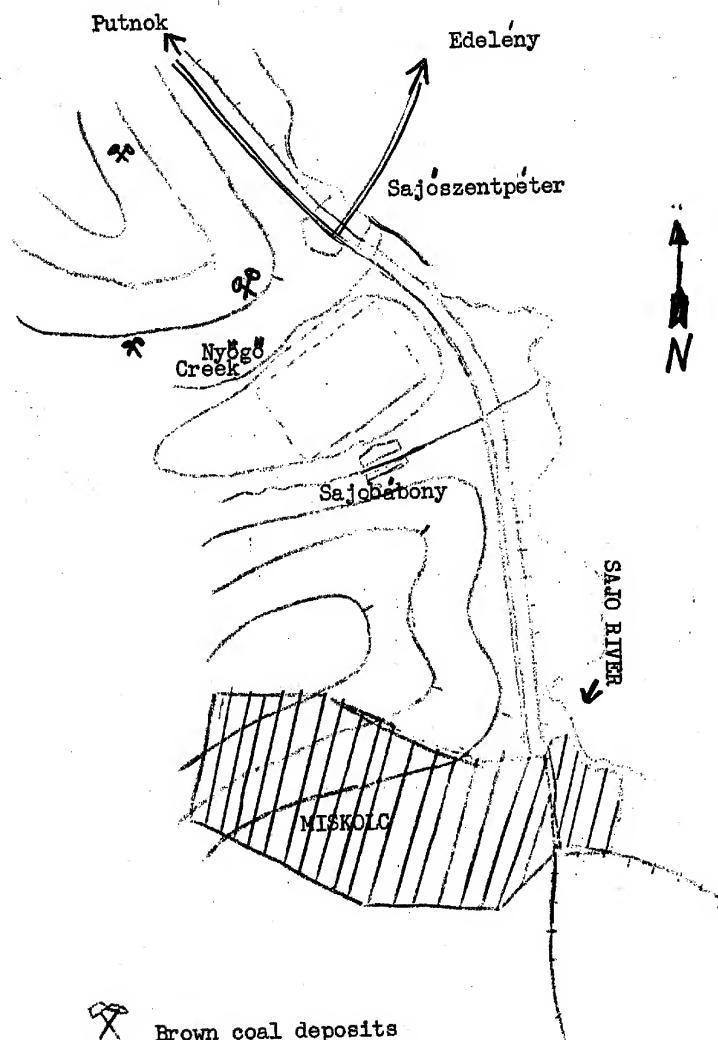
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Area of the Explosives Factory near Sajobabony



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